

RECOGNIZING RICHARD JAMES
BUTLER ON HIS 73RD BIRTHDAY

HON. STEPHANIE TUBBS JONES

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 1, 2005

Mrs. JONES of Ohio. I rise today to join the many friends of Richard James Butler in recognition of his life and the commemoration of his 73rd birthday. His many years of dedication to his family, community, and service in the United States Army and the United States Postal Service are praiseworthy.

Richard James Butler was born in Cleveland, Ohio on March 6 in of the year 1932 to Samuel Butler and Gladys Butler. The third of eight brothers and sisters, he attended and graduated from East Technical High School where he was a standout on the track team. In 1952, the year after his graduation, showing a strong sense of duty to his country, Richard enlisted in the United States Army and served in the Korean War. He was injured in the line of duty in the Battle of Pork Chop Hill in 1953. For his courage, bravery, and valor, Richard was awarded a Purple Heart.

In 1955, Richard married the object of his affection, Ruth Washington. A man of self-reliance, he undertook in architecture while still employed at the United States Postal Service. He contributed to the design and building of the homes in which he and his beloved Ruth raised their three children: Michael, Marcus, and Marla.

While an employee of the United States Postal Service, Richard was very active in the American Postal Worker's Union serving various offices, including that of Union President. He was also elected to the position of National Business Agent, representing union members in individual disputes with the Postal Service. After retiring from the Postal Service in 1990, Richard continued his work as a National Business Agent until his passing on the morning of July 5, 2002.

He was known as a strong provider, teacher, protector and friend with a smile regarded as one of the warmest. Though we will be greatly missed, his tenacious spirit and untiring love will remain an inspiration to us all.

On behalf of the Congress of the United States and citizens of the 11th Congressional District of Ohio, I join in the celebration of life of Richard James Butler.

**PRODUCT SAFETY NOTIFICATION
AND RECALL EFFECTIVENESS
ACT OF 2005**

HON. JAMES P. MORAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 1, 2005

Mr. MORAN of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, every year approximately 300 recalls of potentially hazardous and dangerous consumer products are conducted by the Consumer Product Safety Commission. Tragically, many of our constituents are never aware that a product in their home has been recalled due to safety concerns. In recent years more than 11 million potentially injurious products were on the market including baby cribs, strollers, and chil-

dren's toys. The return rate for these recalled products is less than 20 percent. That means over 8 million life-threatening products are in homes across the Nation.

The main reason the return rate is low is that manufacturers do not have a proper system in place to notify consumers when their product has a defect. This is why I am introducing the Product Safety Notification and Recall Effectiveness Act of 2005.

This legislation requires manufacturers to include a product registration card or offer on-line product registration for every juvenile product, small household appliance or other product the Consumer Product Safety Commission deems necessary. These registration cards may not include any marketing information which is often a turn-off for consumers. The only use for these cards and the on-line registration is to create a database of necessary information to contact consumers directly in the event of a product recall.

The Product Safety Notification and Recall Effectiveness Act of 2005 will help protect children and families. In 1993, the National Highway Transportation and Safety Administration, NHTSA, introduced a mandatory registration card program for child safety seats similar to what this legislation proposes. A study published regarding this program, found that the registration program resulted in nine times more child safety seats being registered. An increase of 56 percent more seats were brought in for repair. These registration cards are helping to save lives.

This legislation has been endorsed by the Consumer Federation, Consumer Union and several other consumer and safety advocacy groups. They know that something needs to be done to help protect everyone from potentially hazardous items.

I look forward to working with my colleagues to pass this important legislation. We have a responsibility to ensure that every family and every person in our congressional districts are aware of any recall to help improve their safety.

**IN RECOGNITION OF THE RECENT
UNITED STATES-JAPAN JOINT
STATEMENT ON TAIWAN**

HON. ROBERT E. ANDREWS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 1, 2005

Mr. ANDREWS. Mr. Speaker, in the most significant alteration since 1996 to the United States-Japan Security Alliance, the United States and Japan listed in a joint statement on February 19 the peaceful resolution of the Taiwan Strait issue as a "common strategic objective."

It goes without saying that Taiwan welcomed the move; China on the other hand responded in an irate fashion.

The joint statement comes at a time when China's continued refusal to renounce the use of force against Taiwan is already highlighted by China's announcement 2 months ago that it will enact its so-called "Anti-Secession Law" in the beginning of March—a law which may be used to justify a military attack on Taiwan if Taiwan formally declares independence.

Additionally, China published a Defense Policy White Paper in which it threatened to

"crush" Taiwan if the island declares independence, and in which it states that it is the "sacred responsibility" of the PRC army to stop Taiwan from "splitting the country."

The "Taiwan Relations Act," which has regulated the United States-Taiwan relationship since 1979, specifically states that the United States decision to establish diplomatic relations with China in 1979 rests upon the expectation that the future of Taiwan will be determined by peaceful means; and that the United States considers any effort to determine the future of Taiwan by other than peaceful means a threat to the peace and security of the Western Pacific area and of grave concern to the United States.

This "Anti-Secession Law" is a threat to the peace and security of the Western Pacific, and therefore of grave concern to the United States. I believe it is crucial that we and Japan publicly oppose China's Anti-Secession Law and its Defense White Paper, for these constitute an extremely aggressive move against Taiwan.

Mr. Speaker, United States policy must remain clear that nobody but the people of Taiwan has the right to determine the future of Taiwan. I ask that my colleagues join me in applauding the recent joint statement by the United States and Japan, and reaffirming our continued support for the people of Taiwan.

**EXPRESSING CONCERN OVER CHI-
NA'S INTRODUCTION OF AN
ANTI-SECESSION LAW**

HON. TOM DAVIS

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 1, 2005

Mr. TOM DAVIS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, in mid January China and Taiwan agreed to allow direct flights between the Chinese mainland and Taiwan during this year's Lunar New Year holidays. This agreement was considered to be a small but important step toward a peaceful, diplomatic resolution. In this vein, it is important that the United States continue to lend help to maintain the crucial balance in relations between China and Taiwan.

In December 2004, China unveiled its plan to introduce legislation that, under certain circumstances, would permit China to legally take military action against Taiwan. Chinese officials claimed the measure was defensive in nature, and that it was in response to radical pro-independence forces in Taiwan that have reached the point of no return. Critics, however, speculate the hard line Taiwanese independence movement that China laments gets much of its oxygen from China's confrontational fervor. Additionally, Beijing denied charges of unilaterally changing the status quo and underscored the measure as an "anti-secession law", as opposed to a "unification law".

Ironically, Beijing's move seems to be breeding a popular clamor within Taiwan spawning a reactionary law in retaliation. Taipei has already begun drafting an "anti-annexation" law, which will likely include an immediate declaration of formal independence and mandate a referendum on any move by China to change the status quo. This type of back-and-forth exchange has the potential to yield grim ramifications on the vision of a peaceful diplomatic resolve.